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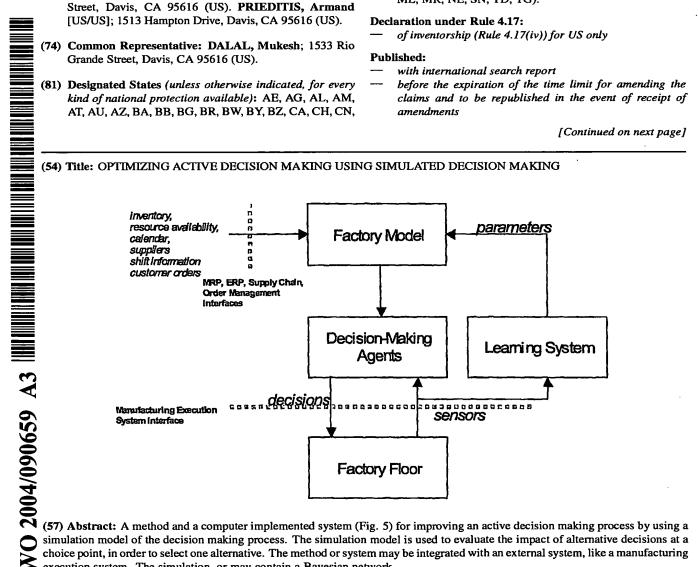
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### Declaration under Rule 4.17:



simulation model of the decision making process. The simulation model is used to evaluate the impact of alternative decisions at a choice point, in order to select one alternative. The method or system may be integrated with an external system, like a manufacturing execution system. The simulation, or may contain a Bayesian network.

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Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 706/21				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a		Relevant to claim No.	
Х	US 5461699 (ARBABI et al.) 24 Oct. 1995 (24, 11,	1995), column 3, lines 39-66, column	1, 10, 11, 20	
Y, E	4, lines 1-18 US 6725208 B1(HARTMAN et al.) 20 Apr. 2004 (20, 04, 2004), claims 33 and 34 2, 5, 12, 15			
Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.  * Special categories of cited documents:  "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority				
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